SIGA
Natural Slate

SOURCE:
Hubei, China

COLOUR:
Blue Grey

APPEARANCE:
Textured

Specification Range | SIGA 14

Product data and technical specifications

Testing

Samples of SIGA 14 have been tested in accordance with, and comply with the relevant sections of EN12326-1:2004

Fixing

Fixing SIGA 14 slates is straightforward for an experienced slater. They can be fixed by either traditional nailing, or by the modern hook system. Further fixing information is provided overleaf – for a comprehensive guide, please refer to BS 5534. Most SIGA slates come preholed at a nominal 90mm headlap. By simply moving the location of the slate on a standard 50x25mm batten, these can be fixed to obtain headlaps between 72 and 116mm, allowing them to be used on a variety of pitches.

Sorting and Holing

Natural slate should be handled with care. Before the slates are fitted they should be sorted and graded (and holed if necessary) as per BS 5534. The grade of the slate will have an impact on the amount of grading required.

The following processes should be followed to ensure best practice:

- Sort slates into different thicknesses (thick, medium and thin). Thicker slates should be laid at the eaves, thinner slates at the ridge.
- Any slate found to be twisted, bowed etc. should be set to one side and used for eave or top slates, or cut for half slates, valleys or chimneys.
- Roofing slate is always holed from the back, creating a countersunk area on the front, so that any water present near the hole does not have a direct route to the underside of the slate. It also provides a neat spalled area for the nail head to sit in.
- Pre-holed are supplied as standard in the UK. Unholed (blank) slates are also available to special order, and can give peace of mind on very low pitches when used with slate hooks.
- Load out the slates on the roof with the thickest slates in the lowest courses.

Performance and properties

Thermal cycling	**T1**
Exposure SO_2	**S1**
Mechanical Resistance (CMoR)	**Transversal 29MPa Longitudinal 30Mpa**
Water absorption	**Complies <0.26%**
Carbonate content	**Complies <0.20%**
External fire performance	**Deemed to satisfy**
Reaction to fire	**Deemed to satisfy class A1**
Release of dangerous substances	**None in specified conditions of use**

Technical Specifications

Nail fixing:

Nails should be copper or aluminium to BS 1202. In corrosive or marine atmospheres copper nails are preferable and in severe conditions silicone bronze nails should be used.

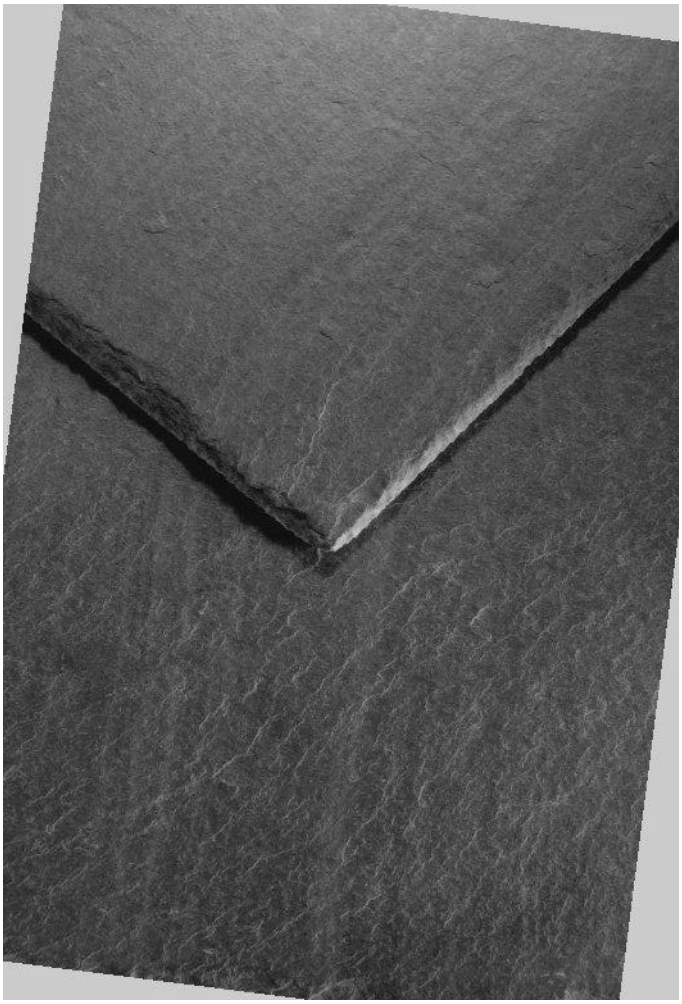
The nail head diameter should be at least 10mm to comply with BS 5534 to minimise the risk of the nail head pulling through the slate. A 10mm head is only possible where the nail shank is 3mm diameter or greater.

Hook fixing:

All natural slates can be fixed using slate hooks. The hook method offers considerable freedom in design and can save up to 25% on labour costs and eliminate breakages.

With the hook fixing system, the slates are secured at the tail, thus providing strong resistance to wind uplift. To comply with BS 5534, hooks should be stainless steel, 18/10 or 316 (marine) grade, 2.7 mm gauge and at least 5 mm longer than the minimum lap required. Only "spike-end" or nail-in hooks are permissible under BS 5534.

Please refer to the SIGA brochure for more details regarding fixing, coverage, batten and holing gauges, headlaps and exposure.



A guide to the European Standards EN 12326-1:2004

- In July 2004 a European standard for roofing slates was published, BS EN 12326-1:2004 Slate and Stone Products for Discontinuous Roofing. This standard replaces all previous standards throughout Europe including BS 680, the previous standard for roofing slates.
- The standard is established against a series of tests carried out on each product under controlled conditions.
- Any manufacturer claiming conformity with the product specification must carry out the tests relevant to their product and make the results available in a report.
- The report is officially called the ACD (Accompanying Commercial Document) and comprises two parts, both of which must be present for the ACD to be a complete report.
- Part 1 relates to the information about the manufacturer (producer), the slate source and the testing together with the test results.
- Part 2 explains the meaning of the tests and what is required for conformity to the standard.
- The new standards offer different levels of conformity for a given characteristic, (E.g. thickness of the slate) with respect to the rock from which they are made. These relate to different durability's acceptable in different countries and methods of slating.
- It is no longer acceptable to specify "Slates which conform to the relevant British Standard" or even slates which conform to BS EN 12326-1. These blanket specifications would allow slates to be supplied at the lowest conformity level within a standard and this could mean that the client receives a sub standard product.
- For detailed information on BS EN 12326, please see the SIGA Slate brochure or contact your SIGA slate representative.

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